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Signature

*Maria J. Sousa*

Date

12/19/06

AMENDMENT UNDER  
37 C.F.R. §1.116

Address to:  
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P.O. Box 1450  
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Attorney Docket

GUID-005CON6

Confirmation No.

5455

First Named Inventor

Taylor

Application Number

10/684,557

Filing Date

10/14/2003

Group Art Unit

3732

Examiner Name

O'Connor, Cary E.

Title

Surgical Instruments and Procedures  
for Stabilizing the Beating Heart  
During Coronary Artery Bypass Graft  
Surgery

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action dated October 10, 2006 for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before January 10, 2007. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Applicants submit that the amendments set forth below raise no new issues. Rather, the amendments place the claims in form for allowance or in better form for appeal. Entry of these amendments is thus respectfully requested.